SWE 265P Reverse Engineering and Modeling

Lecture 3

Duplication of course material for any purpose without the explicit written permission of the professor is prohibited.

"Then, I [...] and draw things out. Important classes, what functions all called to perform different features. Usually on a piece of paper." – Kristina Nasr [Software engineer, Google]



- Last week's material
- Mental models
- Externalizing mental models
- UML class diagrams
- In-class practice
- Alegria Baquero (Zocdoc)

Last week's material

- Information foraging
 - top-down, bottom-up, systematic, opportunistic comprehension
 - goal-driven
 - familiarity
- JPacMan
 - "understanding"
 - changes!
- Homework
- Any questions?



- An explanation of someone's thought process about how something works in the real world
- A representation of the surrounding world, the relationships between its various parts and a person's intuitive perception about his or her own acts and their consequences
- Can help shape behavior and set an approach to solving problems and doing tasks

Properties of mental models

- Individual
- Uncertain
- Selective
- Flexible
- Dependent

Mental model (software, external)

- Mental models are an artefact of belief
 - users will plan and predict their future actions with a system based on their mental models [as constructed from the visible interface of the software, any documentation of what it does, and other means]
- Designers ideally should anticipate users' mental models so that their product communicates its function through its form

Mental model (software, internal)

- Mental models are an artefact of belief
 - developers will plan and predict their future actions with a system based on their mental models [as constructed from the source code, any documentation of how it works, and other means]
- Developers ideally should anticipate other developers' mental models so that their source code communicates its function through its form

Properties of mental models

- Individual
- Uncertain
- Selective
- Flexible
- Dependent

Limitations of mental models

- Mental models are limited in capacity
- Mental models are prone to forgetting aspects
- Mental models cannot be accessed by others

Externalizing mental models



Externalizing mental models



Externalizing mental models



What to externalize?

Important frequent question #1

Where in the code is this feature implemented?

Template (part 1: where have we been?)

Folder	File	Method	Relevant?	Relevant how?	Confidence	Notes

Template (part 2: where do we still need to go?)

Folder	File	Method	Why?	Priority	Notes

Let's practice: JPacMan3

- You should still have a clone of JPacMan3, but if not
 - https://github.com/SWE-265P/jpacman3
- Open the project

JPacMan question #1 (where is this feature)

• Scoring



SWE 265P – Reverse Engineering and Modeling

UML



UML





- In IntelliJ, install and activate the plug-in simpleUMLce
- Restart IntelliJ
- Open the JPacMan3 project
- Go to the project view, right click on nl.tudelft.jpacman, select Add to simpleUML diagram, choose New Diagram, choose a name, and after hitting ok make sure to confirm recursively

JPacMan question #2 (where is this feature)

• Collisions

Homework (team)

- With your team, prepare and print a UML class diagram for your chosen system
 - bring this diagram to class next week
- Decide upon two different features and highlight in the UML class diagram where those two features are implemented
 - use the templates
- Prepare a one-to-two page writeup of how you found where those features are implemented
 - be specific
 - attach your templates

Homework (team)

- Due date: start of class next week
- Submit via a GitHub pull request that create a homework_1 folder in your team's folder, two files:
 - hw1_<team_name>.pdf
 - hw1_uml_<team_name>.png
- Bring a printed copy of your UML diagram
- Start early

Homework (continued)

- Tutorial: reading code
 - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cPVu9AJ8gGw&t=523s</u>
- How to read code
 - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-KgU5sxGtuM</u>
- Strategies for working with legacy code
 - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UH4dSpPieDE</u>

Homework (continued)

• Make sure to regularly update your personal diary, including an entry for today's lecture

Optional advanced material

- Download the codecrumbs tool and experiment with how you may be able to use it in externalizing your mental model
- Experiment with different UML tools
 - Star UML
 - UML designer
 - Visual Paradigm
 - ...

Break

And now...

• ...welcome Alegria!